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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/160,267	09/24/1998	MASAMI TOYAMA	05058/76501	6140

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SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP  
717 NORTH HARWOOD  
SUITE 3400  
DALLAS, TX 75201

EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/160,267

Applicant(s)

TOYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14-25 and 32-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14-25 and 32-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Okamoto et al. (US Patent No. 5,602,625).

As to claim 32, Okamoto teaches:

an image processing section (128 in fig. 1) for processing an image in a plurality of operational modes (in fig. 4, the operation panel 111 includes a finisher mode setting section 111, copy mode setting section 112, a function setting mode 113, col. 20, lines 44-48);

a display device (fig. 4) for displaying information on a screen thereof, the display device displaying information on a predetermined area of the screen in a plurality of manners (col. 6, lines 1-4) in response to a display signal (col. 21, col. 21, line 65 through col. 22, line 3);

controller (143 in fig. 1) for determining the operational mode (copying condition and copying function set by keys 122) of the image forming apparatus (col. 21, lines 7-14) and providing a display signal to the display device to change the manner in which the predetermined area of the screen (i.e., up and right corner of fig. 83-86, 88-91, 93-100) according to the determined operation mode (col. 6, lines 2-4; and col. 27, lines 5-7).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 14, 17-19, 22, 33-36, and 38-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Okamoto et al. (US Patent No. 5,602,625) and Knodt et al. (US Patent No. 5,987,535).

As to claim 1, Okamoto teaches:

an image forming section (128 in fig. 1) for forming an image in a plurality of operational modes (108-110 in fig. 4);

a display device (fig. 4) for displaying information on a screen thereof, the display device displaying information on a predetermined area of the screen in a plurality of colors in response to a color display signal (col. 6, lines 1-4; col. 21, line 65 through col. 22, line 3);

controller (143 in fig. 1) for determining the operational mode of the image forming apparatus and providing a color display signal to the display device the color to be displayed on the predetermined area of the screen (i.e., up and right corner of fig. 83-86, 88-91, 93-100) according to the determined operation mode (col. 21, lines 25-40; col. 27, lines 40-51 and col. 45, lines 15-26).

Although Okamoto does not teach color display to the display device is changed according to determined operation mode, Okamoto teaches there are different color values associating with the dynamic data are displayed in the display device (col. 21, lines 30-35 and

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col. 21, line 65 through col. 22, line 3 and col. 45, lines 15-26), it would have been obvious for changing the color on the display device according to the determined operation mode.

Furthermore, Knodt also teaches more details how information signal is changed on the display device according to the determined operation mode (steps of 90-100 in fig. 14).

It would have been obvious to have modified the color displaying information of Okamoto in order to be changed on the display device according to the determined operation mode as taught by Knodt. The suggestion of modifying the system of Okamoto can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Knodt because Knodt provides a technique of immediate presentation to an operator of the information values displays in the display means. Therefore, the system of Knodt is particular suited for an interactive computer graphics system of Okamoto in that it provides comfortable features to the user so that the user easily to control any function in the apparatus.

As to claims 4-5, Knodt teaches copy mode (53 in fig. 2) and fax mode (56 in fig. 2) displayed in the display device (fig. 2).

As to claim 6, Okamoto teaches controller sets a background color of the predetermined area of the screen in response to the color display signal (col. 45, lines 15-26).

As to claim 9, Okamoto teaches program registration means for registering a plurality of combinations of image forming conditions; and setting means for setting an operational mode by calling a combination of image forming conditions registered by the program registration means (col. 21, lines 25-50).

As to claims 14, 19, and 22, due to the similarities of these claims to those of claims 1, 6, and 9, these claims are rejected as the reason and motivation applied to claims 1, 6, and 9.

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As to claims 17-18, due to similarity of these claims to those of claims 4-5, these claims are rejected as the reason and motivation applied to claims 4-5.

As to claim 33, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 1 including a memory device for storing color information in association with a plurality of identification codes ( col. 35, lines 3-20) , this claim is rejected as the reason applied to claim 1.

As to claim 34, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 1, this claim is rejected as the reason applied to claim 1.

As to claims 35 and 36, due to the similarity of this claim to those of claims 1 and 4-5, this claim is rejected as the reason applied to claims 1 and 4-5.

As to claim 38, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 1 including setting means for setting the image processing condition, wherein the plurality of parameters are classified into a basic function and an application function (see fig. 14), this claim is rejected as the reason applied to claim 1.

As to claim 39, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 33 including selection means for selecting one of the plurality of programs stored in the memory device (col. 35, lines 2-8), this claim is rejected as the reason applied to claim 33.

5. Claims 2-3, 7-8,10-12, 15-16, 20-21, 23-25 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Okamoto and Knodt as applied to claims 1 and 14, and Kajita (US Patent No. 5,999,708).

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As to claims 2-3, the combination of Okamoto and Knodt teaches the feature in claim 1 except operator entering identification and the image forming section performing jobs is associated with one of modes.

Kajita teaches input means for entering an identification signal for identifying an operator (704 in fig. 7, col. 5, lines 21-26), and the image forming section (117 in fig. 1) is capable of sequentially executing a plurality of jobs, and each job is associated with one of the plurality of operational modes (i.e., print mode 402 in fig. 4).

It would have been obvious to have modified the system of Okamoto and Knodt for entering the password by the operator and selecting the printing mode of a plurality of modes for executing the print job as taught by Kajita. The suggestion of modifying the system of Okamoto and Knodt can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Kajita because Kajita provides a security function which just allow a particular operator to select a particular mode such as a printing mode for only executing the print job.

As to claims 10-12, the combination of Okamoto and Knodt teaches the feature in claim 1. Furthermore, Sato teaches the regions are displayed with a background colors is set according to the color value (col. 15, lines 1-12).

However, the combination of Okamoto and Knodt does not teach a second setting means regarding a second function in associated with a first setting means regarding a first function, and both function are simultaneously displayed in sectionalized regions in a display device.

Kajita teaches first setting means for setting an image forming condition regarding a first function (i.e., enlargement in fig. 15) , and second setting means regarding a second function (i.e., arrow associated with enlargement or number 1506 associated with copy mode in fig. 15) in

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association with the first setting means; the first function and the second function are simultaneously displayed in sectionalized regions in a display device (see 1501 and 1506 in fig. 15).

It would have been obvious to have modified the system of Okamoto and Knodt for display a second setting means regarding a second function in associated with a first setting means regarding a first function, and both function are simultaneously displayed in sectionalized regions in a display device as taught by Kajita. The suggestion of modifying the system of Okamoto and Knodt can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Kajita because Kajita provides the graphical user interface displays a plurality of functions associated together and in the same window which allows the user to easily set a plurality of functions when these functions are displayed in the same window.

As to claims 7-8, due to similarity of these claims to those of claims 10-11, these claims are rejected as the reason and motivation applied to claims 10-11.

As to claims 15-16, 20-21, and 23-25, due to similarity of these claims to those of claims 2-3, 7-8 and 10-12, these claims are rejected as the reason and motivation applied to claims 2-3, 7-8 and 10-12.

As to claim 37, due to similarity of this claim to those of claims 1 and 10-11, these claims are rejected as the reason and motivation applied to claims 1 and 10-11.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments filed 4/03/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.



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Applicant asserted in page 3 "no color signal is used to indicate provide any status information on the operation of the copier." In reply, the above limitation is to be not read into the claim 32. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Applicant asserted in page 3 "There is no predetermined area of the display that is modified to change the manner of display. Further, there is no change in the manner of a display in response to an operation mode of the copier." In reply, Okamoto discloses the operation controlling section 124 in fig. 1 is described in fig. 12 in which the CPU 125 (in fig. 12) controls all the operations of each means connected thereto based on input from sensors 121 and the keys 122 (col. 20, lines 63-65 and 51-59). Thus, the CPU 125 monitors any of operations mode entered by the input key of the operation panel or any change of operations in the apparatus when detecting by sensors 121. The CPU 125, which detects any input (i.e., any of the desired operation modes is inputted by a user) from the operation input of the operation panel or any changing operations is detected by sensors, provides input to the CPU 143 (in fig. 1). When the CPU 143 determines the operation mode from the input of the operation panel and provides a display signal (i.e., display data) to portions of screen (i.e., LCD 102) (col. 21, lines 33-41). The display data is appeared to the screen in the different forms (col. 21, lines 7-14) including display color information to predetermined area (i.e., predetermined portion) on the LCD 102 (col. 21, line 65 to col. 22, line 3). Further, Okamoto discloses the predetermined areas in the screen of fig. 83, which is changed from fig. 81, includes the manner in which new predetermined area is displayed in upper right corner.

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Applicant asserted in page 4 “Knodt does not show or suggest the use of color in a display.” And “Kajita does not show or suggest the use of color in a display.” In reply, Although Knodt does not show or suggest the use of color in a display, Knodt teaches more details how display signal is changed on the display device according to the determined operation mode (steps of 90-100 in fig. 14). It would have been obvious to be understood that the display data, which is provided to the color screen, would include the color information.

Applicant asserted in page 4 “a controller for determining the operational mode of the image forming apparatus and providing a color display signal to the display device to change the color to be displayed on the predetermined area of the screen according to the determined operational mode.” In reply, Okamoto discloses the operation controlling section 124 in fig. 1 is described in fig. 12 in which the CPU 125 (in fig. 12) controls all the operations of each means connected thereto based on input from sensors 121 and the keys 122 (col. 20, lines 63-65 and 51-59). Thus, the CPU 125 monitors any of operations mode entered by the input key of the operation panel or any change of operations in the apparatus when detecting by sensors 121. The CPU 125, which detects any input (i.e., any of the desired operation modes is inputted by a user) from the operation input of the operation panel or any changing operations is detected by sensors, provides input to the CPU 143 (in fig. 1). When the CPU 143 determines the operation mode from the input of the operation panel and provides a display signal (i.e., display data) to portions of screen (i.e., LCD 102) (col. 21, lines 33-41). The display data is appeared to the screen in the different forms (col. 21, lines 7-14) including display color information to predetermined area (i.e., predetermined portion) on the LCD 102 (col. 21, line 65 to col. 22, line 3). Further, Okamoto discloses the predetermined areas in the screen of fig. 83, which is changed

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from fig. 81, includes the manner in which new predetermined area including new color is displayed in upper right corner.

Applicant argued to the independent claims 14, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, and 39, in pages 5-7, which the similar scope with claims 32 and 1 as indicated above. In reply, Okamoto discloses that based on the input from a user on the input key of the operation control panel and input from the sensors which detects operation of the apparatus (col. 20, lines 63-65 and 51-59), the CPU 143 provides the different display data (col. 21, lines 7-14) to the predetermined area on the screen including color information (col. 21, line 65 to col. 22, line 3).

For the above reasons, it is believed that the cited prior art fully discloses the claimed invention and the rejection stand.

### ***Conclusion***

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

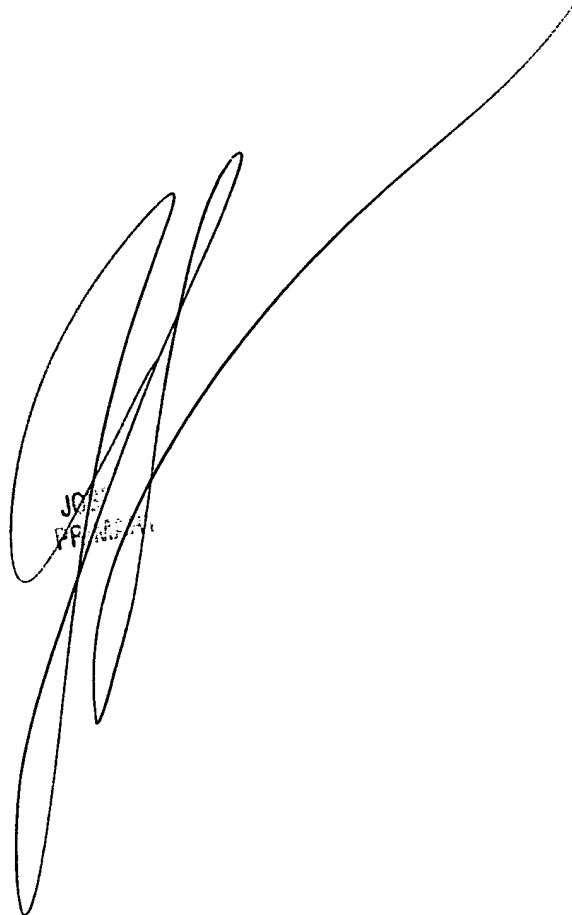
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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran  
June. 15, 2002

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right. The signature is positioned over a faint, rectangular stamp that contains the text "JUN 15 2002" and "PC".